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DEC 05 2006

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

The following is the status of the claims of the above-captioned application, as amended:

Claims 1-15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Currently amended). An isolated protease variant comprising an insertion, substitution or deletion of one of the amino acid residues K, H, R, E, D, Q, N, C, V, L, I, P, M, F, W, Y, G, A, S, T at one or more of positions 62, 68, 97, 98, 99, 106, 131, 170, 245, and 252 in combination with at least one modification selected from the group consisting of:

*0AQSVPWG,
A1T,V,
Q2L,
S3T,A,L,
V4L,A,
I8V,T,
S9G,D,R,_K,L,V,
R10H,K,
V11A,
Q42D,
A13V,
P14S,T,D,A,M,V,K,Q,L,H,R,I,
A15M,T,
A16P,
H17R,
N18S,H,
R19W,K,L,F,G,I,
G20*,_R,A,
L21F,LP,LW,LA,LG,
T22S,A,K,TV,TG,TL,TW,TV,G,L,TY,
G23S,
S24P,
K27R,

V28I,
V30I,
I35T,V,
T38S,
P40L,
N43D,
R45H,K,
G46D,
A48T,
S49N,
F50S,
V51A,I,D,
P52V,A,
P55S,A,
S57P,
G61E,D,S,R,GP,
T71A,
I72V,
L75I,
N76S,D,
N77S,
S78T,
V81A,
A85T,
S87C,
A88V,T,
E89G,
K94N,
L96LA,LG,
G100GE,
S101SA,SK,
G102D,S,
I107T,V,M,
A108V,T,S,

L111I,V,
A114V,
N116S,D,
G118D,
M119L,I,V,A,S,
H120N,D,Q,K,E,Y,S,
V121A,
L124C,
L126I,
G127E,
S128N,I,G,C,
P129PSN,T,E,D,S,N,A,
S130P,T,C,*,
S132G,T,
A133ASA,
T134A,
Q137H,E,D,
A138G,V,
V139L,I,
N140D,K,
T143A,
S144D,N,P,
R145G,
V150I,
A151V,G,
A152P,
A158T,V,C,E,L,D,M,
G160A,D,
S163G,C,N,A,
Y167K,A,I,
A168G,
A169G,
Y171C,
A172V,

N173D,
A174V,
M175L,I,V,A,S,T,
N183D,
N184D,S,
N185S,D,
R186L,C,H,
S188G,
S190A,
Y192H,
G195F,E,
V203S,A,L,Q,M,F,I,
N204T,D,S,
Q206L,
Y209C,H,
G211D,
S212N,L,
T213A,
Y214C,H,
N218D,S,
M222L,I,V,A,S,
A223G,
T224A,S,
A228T,
A230V,
V234I,
K237R,
N238D,
P239T,S,
S240F,
S242T,
V244I,M,A,
K251E,R,
A254S,

T255A,S,
S256N,R,G,
L257G,
G258K,
S259A,N,G,
T260A,R,
N261D,
L262S,Q,V,
Y263H,F,
G264E,
S265G,R,N,
V268L,I,
N269T,
N296K,
E271A, and
T274S,L,A,R;

wherein the variant has protease activity and each position corresponds to a position of the amino acid sequence of subtilisin BPN' shown in SEQ ID NO: 1.

Claim 17 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 16, comprising an insertion, substitution or deletion of one of the amino acid residues K,H,R,E,D,Q,N,C,V,L,I,P,M,F,W,Y,G,A,S,T at position 62.

Claim 18 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising a substitution of one of the amino acid residues K,H,R,E,D,Q,N,C,V,L,I,P,M,F,W,Y,G,A,S,T at position 62.

Claim 19 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

*0AQSVPWG,
A1T,V,
Q2L,
S3T,A,L, and
V4L,A.

Claim 20 (Currently amended). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

I8V,T,
S9G,D,R,~~K~~,L,V,
R10H,K,and
V11A,and
~~Q12D.~~

Claim 21 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

A13V,
P14S,T,D,A,M,V,K,Q,L,H,R,I,
A15M,T,
A16P, and
H17R.

Claim 22 (Currently amended). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

N18S,H,
R19W,K,L,F,G,I,
G20*,~~R~~,A,
L21F,LP,LW,LA,LG, and
T22S,A,K,TV,TG,TL,TW,TV,G,L,TY.

Claim 23 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

G23S,
S24P,
K27R,
V28I, and
V30I.

Claim 24 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

I35T,V,
T38S,
P40L,
N43D, and
R45H,K.

Claim 25 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

G46D,
A48T,
S49N,
F50S, and
V51A,I,D.

Claim 26 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

P52V,A,
P55S,A,
S57P,
G61E,D,S,R,GP, and
T71A.

Claim 27 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

I72V,
L75I,
N76S,D,
N77S, and
S78T.

Claim 28 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

V81A,
A85T,
S87C,
A88V,T, and
E89G.

Claim 29 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

K94N,
L96LA, LG,
G100GE,
S101SA, SK, and
G102D, S.

Claim 30 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

I107T, V, M,
A108V, T, S,
L111I, V,
A114V, and
N116S, D.

Claim 31 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

G118D,
M119L, I, V, A, S,
H120N, D, Q, K, E, Y, S,
V121A, and
L124C.

Claim 32 (Currently amended). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

L126I,
G127E,

S128N,I,G,C,
P129PSN,T,E,D,S,N,A, and
S130P,T,C,*.

Claim 33 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

S132G,T,
A133ASA,
T134A,
Q137H,E,D, and
A138G,V.

Claim 34 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

V139L,I,
N140D,K,
T143A,
S144D,N,P, and
R145G.

Claim 35 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

V150I,
A151V,G,
A152P,
A158T,V,C,E,L,D,M, and
G160A,D.

Claim 36 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

S163G,C,N,A,
Y167K,A,I,
A168G,

A169G, and
Y171C.

Claim 37 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

A172V,
N173D,
A174V,
M175L,I,V,A,S,T, and
N183D.

Claim 38 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

N184D,S,
N185S,D,
R186L,C,H,
S188G, and
S190A.

Claim 39 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

Y192H,
G195F,E,
V203S,A,L,Q,M,F,I,
N204T,D,S, and
Q206L.

Claim 40 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

Y209C,H,
G211D,
S212N,L,
T213A, and
Y214C,H.

Claim 41 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

N218D,S,
M222L,I,V,A,S,
A223G,
T224A,S, and
A228T.

Claim 42 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

A230V,
V234I,
K237R,
N238D, and
P239T,S.

Claim 43 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

S240F,
S242T,
V244I,M,A,
K251E,R, and
A254S.

Claim 44 (Currently amended). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

T255A,S,
S256N,R,G,
L257G,
G258K, and
S259A,N,G.

Claim 45 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

T260A,R,
N261D,
L262S,Q,V,
Y263H,F, and
G264E.

Claim 46 (Previously presented). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising one modification selected from the group consisting of:

S265G,R,N,
V268L,I,
N269T,
N296K,
E271A, and
T274S,L,A,R.

Claim 47 (Currently amended). The protease variant of claim 17, comprising:

Q2L+N62D,
S3L+N62D+S163A+S190A,
S3T+P14Q+A15M+R19K+N62D+S144D,
V4L+N62D+E89G,
~~S9L+A15T+T22TV+V139L+Q245F+L262S,~~
S9R+A13V+A15T+I35V+N62D+Q245F,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+P52T+N62D+Q245R,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245N,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245R,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62D+Q245R+S259G,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62E+Q245R,
S9R+A15T+G20*+L21F+N62NS*62aS+N218D+Q245R,
S9R+A15T+T22A+N62D,
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245G,
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245S,
S9R+A15T+T22TG+N62D+V139L+Q245V,

S9R+A15T+T22TL+N62D+I107V+V139L+Q245W,
S9R+A15T+T22TL+N62D+Q245W,
S9R+A15T+N62D+H120N+P131T,
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245R+N252M,
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245W+N252S,
S9R+A15T+N62D+Q245W+N252V,
S9R+A15T+N62ND+V139L+Q245E,
S9R+A15T+N62ND+V139L+N261D,
S9R+A15T+N62NG+Q245T,
S9R+A15T+N62S+H120N+P131T+N218D,
R10H+N62D,
V11A+N62DE,
A15M+V30I+N62D+S99N+L111I+V244A+S265N,
N18S+N62D+I107T+A254S,
G20R+N62D+V244I+Q245W+N252E,
I35T+N62D,
S49N+N62D,
S57P+N62ND,
G61R+N62D,
N62D+I72V,
N62D+V81A+Q245R,
N62D+V121A,
N62D+P131F+A172V,
N62D+V139I+N183D+N185S+V203I+Q245R+L262S,
N62D+N140K+T143A+S144D,
N62D+R145G,
N62D+V150I,
N62D+A151G,
N62D+A169G+V203I+Q245R,
N62D+S188G+K251R,
N62D+Y214H+K237R,
N62D+N238D,
N62D+Q245A+N252G+S265G,
N62D+S265G,

N62ND+N184S+S256G,

N62NE, or

N62NE+V234I.

Claim 48 (Currently amended). ~~The~~ An isolated protease variant comprising an insertion, substitution or deletion of one of the amino acid K,H,R,E,D,Q,N,C,V,L,I,P,M,F,W,Y,G,A,S,T, at one of the positions 62, 68, 97, 98, 99, 106, 131 and 170 in combination with ~~of claim 16, comprising the following substitutions:~~
S101G+S103A+V104I+G159D+A232V+Q236H+Q245R+N248D+N252K.

Claim 49 (Previously submitted). The protease variant of claim 16, which has ten modifications.

Claim 50 (Previously submitted). The protease variant of claim 16, which is variant of a subtilase belonging to sub-group I-S1.

Claim 51 (Previously submitted). The protease variant of claim 16, which is a variant of a subtilase belonging to sub-group I-S2.

Claim 52 (Previously submitted). The protease variant of claim 16, which is a variant of subtilisin 309.

Claim 53 (Previously submitted). A cleaning or detergent composition, comprising a protease variant of claim 16 and a surfactant.

Claim 54 (Previously submitted). A composition of claim 53, which additionally comprises one or more of an amylase, cellulase, cutinase, esterase, beta-galactosidase, glycoamylase, hemicellulase, lactase, ligninase, lipase, polygalacturonase, and protease.

Claim 55 (New) The protease variant of claim 16, comprising the following substitutions:
S9L+A15T+T22TV+V139L+Q245F+L262S.